org is an online platform, collecting, describing, presenting and generating documents of all sorts. It documents documents.

Your path through the collection lead along Wheelhouse (replica), Mould, Croûton d'Or, Inflation, Market, We Welcome Comments, Roofing (5) – UDI, Roofing (2), Schelp, Hétéroclites, Deneef 'for ever', Original Copy, Magic Mountain, Populus, Shoulder, Magnifier, Estuary, Lemon, Adhesive, I64.762/EDK/YDW, Plaster, LIGO, Crash (1)

What constitutes a 'document' and how does it function?

According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, the etymological origin is the Latin 'documentum', meaning 'lesson, proof, instance, specimen'. As a verb, it is 'to prove or support (something) by documentary evidence', and 'to provide with documents'. The online version of the *OED* includes a draft addition, whereby a document (as a noun) is 'a collection of data in digital form that is considered a single item and typically has a unique filename by which it can be stored, retrieved, or transmitted (as a file, a spreadsheet, or a graphic)'. The current use of the noun 'document' is defined as 'something written, inscribed, etc., which furnishes evidence or information upon any subject, as a manuscript, title-deed, tomb-stone, coin, picture, etc.' (emphasis added).

Both 'something' and that first 'etc.' leave ample room for discussion. A document doubts whether it functions as something unique, or as something reproducible. A passport is a document, but a flyer equally so. Moreover, there is a circular reasoning: to document is 'to provide with documents'. Defining (the functioning of) a document most likely involves ideas of communication, information, evidence, inscriptions, and implies notions of objectivity and neutrality – but the document is neither reducible to one of them, nor is it equal to their sum. It is hard to pinpoint it, as it disperses into and is affected by other fields: it is intrinsically tied to the history of media and to important currents in literature, photography and art; it is linked to epistemic and power structures. However ubiquitous it is, as an often tangible thing in our environment, and as a concept, a document *deranges*.

the-documents.org continuously gathers documents and provides them with a short textual description, explanation, or digression, written by multiple authors. In *Paper Knowledge*, Lisa Gitelman paraphrases 'documentalist' Suzanne Briet, stating that 'an antelope running wild would not be a document, but an antelope taken into a zoo would be one, presumably because it would then be framed – or reframed – as an example, specimen, or instance'. The gathered files are all documents – if they weren't before publication, they now are. That is what the-documents.org, irreversibly, *does*. It is a zoo turning an antelope into an 'antelope'.

As you made your way through the collection, the-documents.org tracked the entries you viewed. It documented your path through the website. As such, the time spent on the-documents.org turned into this – a new document.

This document	was compiled by	on 25.03.2022 20:21,
printed on	and contains 23 do	ocuments on 48 pages.
(https://the-doc	uments.org/log/25-0	03-2022-3941/)

the-documents.org is a project created and edited by De Cleene De Cleene; design & development by atelier Haegeman Temmerman.

the-documents.org has been online since 23.05.2021.

Notes

- De Cleene De Cleene is Michiel De Cleene and Arnout De Cleene.
 Together they form a research group that focusses on novel ways of approaching the everyday, by artistic means and from a cultural and critical perspective.
- www.decleenedecleene.be / info@decleenedecleene.be
 This project was made possible with the support of the Flemish
 Government and KASK & Conservatorium, the school of arts of HOGENT
 and Howest. It is part of the research project *Documenting Objects*,
 financed by the HOGENT Arts Research Fund.

Sources

- Briet, S. Qu'est-ce que la documentation? Paris: Edit, 1951.
- Gitelman, L. Paper Knowledge. Toward a Media History of Documents. Durham/ London: Duke University Press, 2014.
- Oxford English Dictionary Online. Accessed on 13.05.2021.





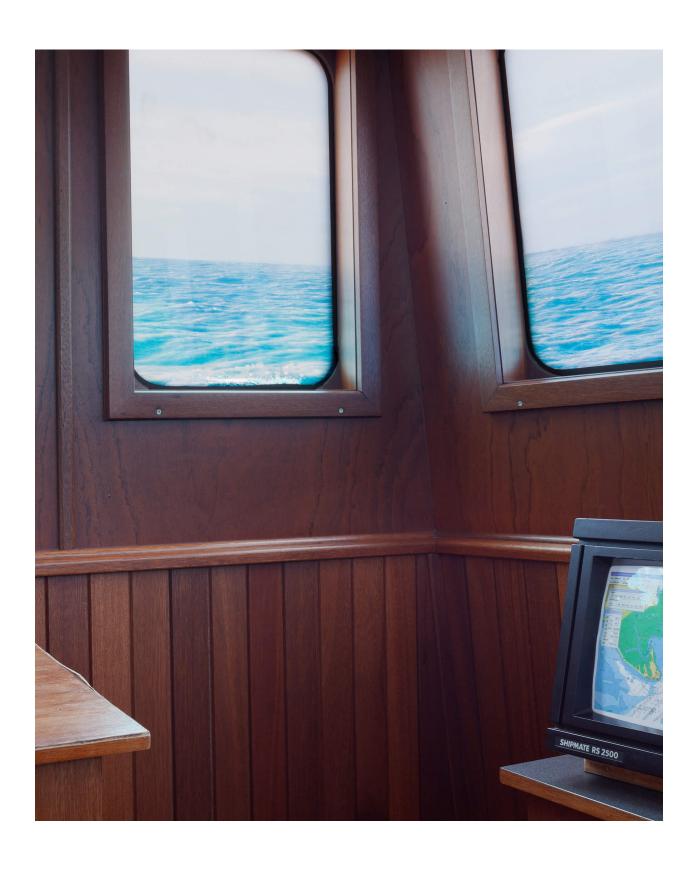


The GPS-plotter displays the ship near Keyhaven Lake, indefinitely. The sea appears calm, the horizon is level from one perspective.

the-documents.

Wheelhouse (replica)

org



type photograph date 20.03.2022 filename bridge_001.jpg size 15,31 MB author Michiel De Cleene At a dental practice, the white Alligat®-powder is mixed with the right amount of water to get a mouldable dough that is pressed upon a patient's teeth. After thirty seconds, the Alligat®-dough stiffens and takes on a rubber-like quality. At that point, still white, it must be removed from the patient's mouth. Over the next few hours, the mould turns increasingly pink as the substance becomes less humid. Now, it can be used as a mould to create a positive master cast of the patient's teeth.

Outside the dental practice, the powder's possibilities remain to be fully explored.

Notes



Sources

 First published as part of De Cleene De Cleene. 'Amidst the Fire, I Was Not Burnt', Trigger (Special issue: Uncertainty), 2. FOMU/Fw:Books, 25-30

the-documents.c

Mould

org



type photograph date 27.01.2022 filename _44A3429.tif size 36,81 MB author De Cleene De Cleene The archive of O. Clemminck, architect, was preserved in a box of croutons – by him, the historian who gave it to my father, or someone else (it contains a letter written by Clemminck's widow asking a client to pay the bill her husband had sent). The croutons had a flavor of fine herbs and, a stamp on the box with the plans in it says, should have been consumed before April 1987.

the-documents.d

Croûton d'Or



type photograph date 14.01.2022 filename _MG_7420.JPG size 6MB author Arnout De Cleene A 250 meter walk away from the seaside. A sign states in Dutch and French:

"!!! NO PARKING !!!

Wrongly parked cars will be chained and only released upon payment of a € 40 parking fee'

The 40 EUR parking fee the sign threatens to charge is communicated by a relatively new sticker stuck on an older sign. Underneath the three black characters (€, 4 and 0) on a white background, there's a relief: 7 characters declaring a parking fee of 1500 BEF.

1500 BEF equals 37,18 EUR¹. In changing currency, the fee increased by 7,58%.

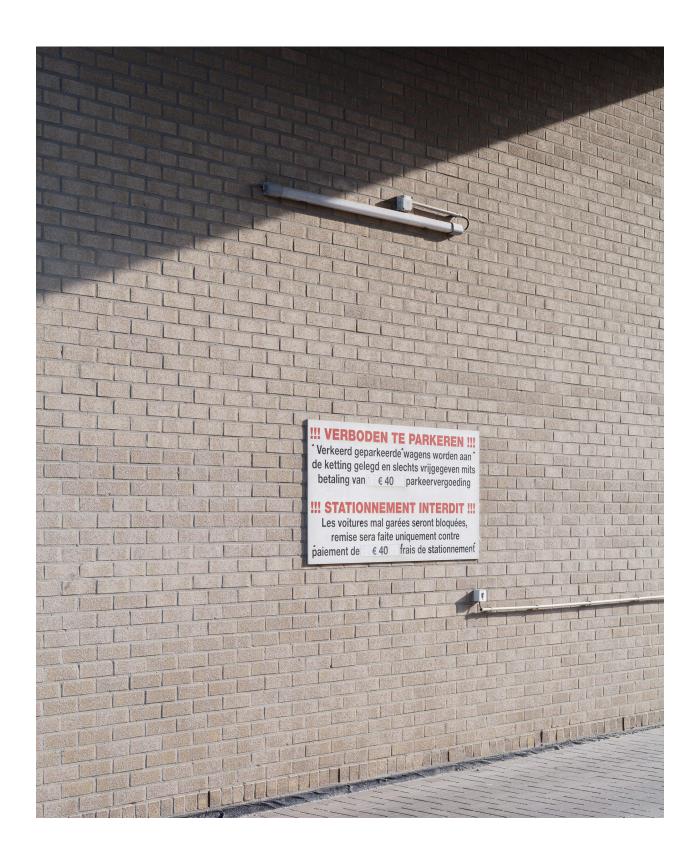
Notes

 The Belgian franc was the currency of the Kingdom of Belgium from 1832 until 2002 when the Euro was introduced. 1 EUR is worth 40,3399 BEF

the-documents.c

Inflation

org



type photograph date 02.01.2022 filename _44A4714.dng size 63,15 MB author Michiel De Cleene K. says that the stall where he usually buys fruit has already been packed up. But he is not worried about the quality of the fruit the other vendor sells. He gestures encouragingly.

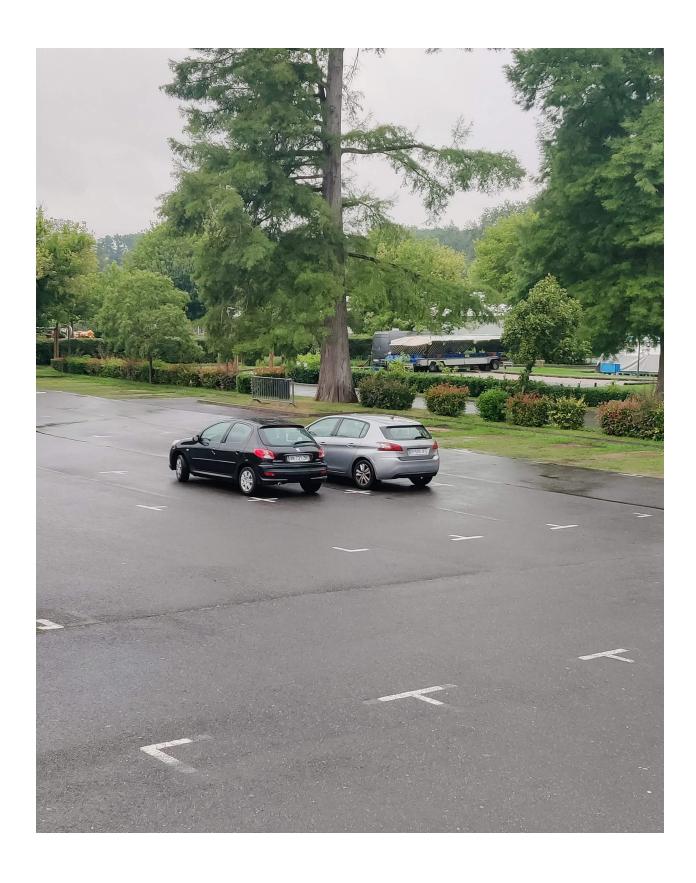
Five signs of type-1, eleven of type-2 and two of type-3 are visible. Four of type-2 (two visible, two deduced) and two of type-3 retain two vehicles.

Notes 1. 3.

 Márk Redele pursues projects that fundamentally relate to architecture and its practice but rarely look like architecture. www.markredele.com

the-documents.d

Market



type photograph date 26.12.2021 filename
market_.jpg

size 3,82 MB author Márk Redele Robert Nemiroff and Jerry Bonnell's lesser known project (R.N. and J.B. being the creators of Astronomy Picture of The Day), was making websites containing over a million of digits of square roots of irrational numbers, e.g. seven. 'They were computed during spare time on a VAX alpha class machine over the course of a weekend. [...] We believe these are the most digits ever computed for the square root of seven on or before 1 April 1994.' Elsewhere, R.N. states: 'They are not copyrighted and we do not think it is legally justifiable to copyright such a basic thing as the digits of a commonly used irrational number.' If one wanted to get a copy of the 10 million digits of the square root of the number e R.N. and J.B. computed in their spare time, one can send an email to R.N. at nemiroff@grossc.gsfc.nasa.gov.

the-documents.o

Sources

- https://apod.nasa.gov/htmltest/gifcity/sqrt7.1mil
- $\bullet \qquad https://apod.nasa.gov/htmltest/rjn_dig.html$
- https://apod.nasa.gov/htmltest/rjn.html

We Welcome Comments

What follows are the first 1 million digits of the square root of 7. Actually, slightly more than 1 million digits are given here. These digits were computed by Robert Nemiroff (George Mason University and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center) and checked by Jerry Bonnell (University Space Research Association and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center). They were computed during spare time on a VAX alpha class machine over the course of a weekend. We do NOT guarantee the accuracy of these digits. Although these digits have been checked once we encourage others to check them as well. We believe these are the most digits ever computed for the square root of seven on or before 1 April 1994. If anyone is aware of more digits we ask them to please alert us of their existence. We have computed at least 10 million digits of the square root of two as well as several digits of the number e and the square roots of other numbers. These are available on this mosaic server (URL: http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/htmltest/rjn.html). We welcome comments.

- Robert Nemiroff and Jerry Bonnell

The square root of seven =

filename

type date Schermafbeelding 2021-05-01 om size author screenshot 01.05.2021 16.44.39.png 340KB Arnout De Cleene

category

astronomy, archive, data storage, irrational numbers, mathematics

The torn off section of roofing on the grass has part of a text carved in it: 'UDI' and 'EN' are still legible. It must have come from another roof; the one shown in the photograph has no missing sections, nor visible repairs.

The roofing that is still on the garage shows a drawing of some kind. A floorplan for a squarish building with a supporting column along each side, or the layout for a tactical explanation, perhaps.

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Roofing (5) – UDI



type photograph date 14.04.2021 filename IMG_6509.jpeg size 6,90MB author Michiel De Cleene Five white boulders close off a shortcut for motorists who attempt to cut the bend in the road. The southernmost roof's pitch runs opposite to the landscape's slope. The lower roofline is, therefore, only about one meter above a small, triangular patch of grass which is hidden from view by a hedge. In summer, when the roofing gets hot and soft, text and drawings get pressed or carved into it.

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type screenshot date 14.04.2021 filename Schermafbeelding 2021-05-05 om 22.37.00.png

size 16,98MB author Michiel De Cleene Halfway March my dad started finding empty clam shells on the banks of the Zuidlede along the pasture where he used to herd sheep. He had never seen this type of clam before. There were easily seventy of them along a hundred metre stretch of riverbank.

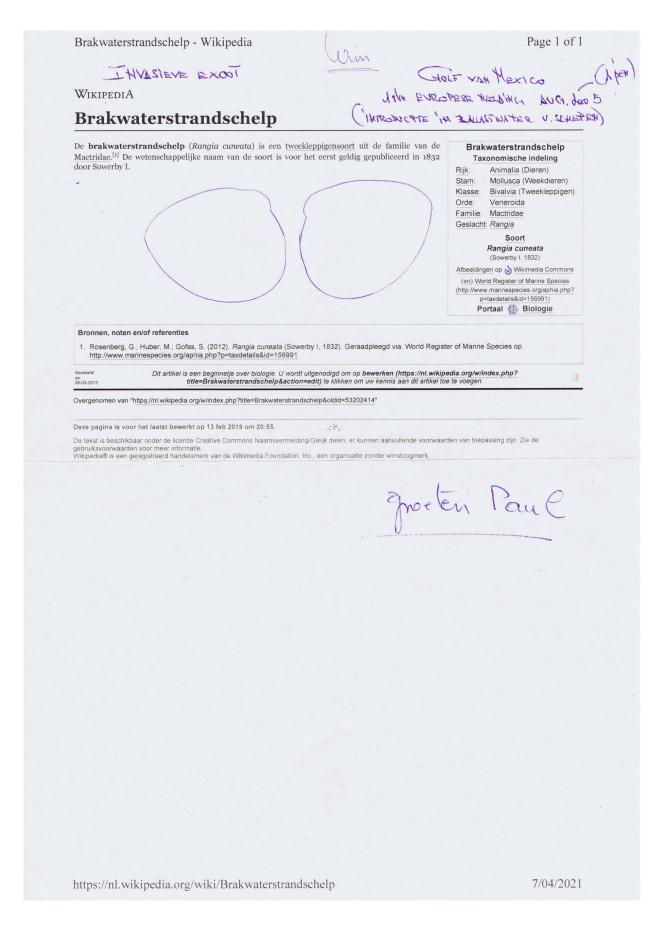
He brought two specimens to someone he knows in the neighbouring provincial domain. She would look into it, she said, and that she would probably pass it on to someone at the educational department.

Yesterday he (my dad) received a printout of the Dutch wikipedia-page on the Brakwaterstrandschelp (Rangia Cuneata). On the page Paul (who sends his regards at the bottom of the document) traced around the scallops with a blue ballpoint pen.

My dad added in capitals – also with a blue ballpoint pen – that the Rangia Cuneata is an invasive species, native to the Gulf of Mexico. The first time it was observed in Europe was in Antwerp in August 2005, most probably they reached Europe in the ballast water tanks of large ships.

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rg Schelp



type scan date 11.04.2021 filename
schelp2.jpeg

size 7MB author Michiel De Cleene

category

animal, economy, encyclopaedia, food, replica/copy, sea, family

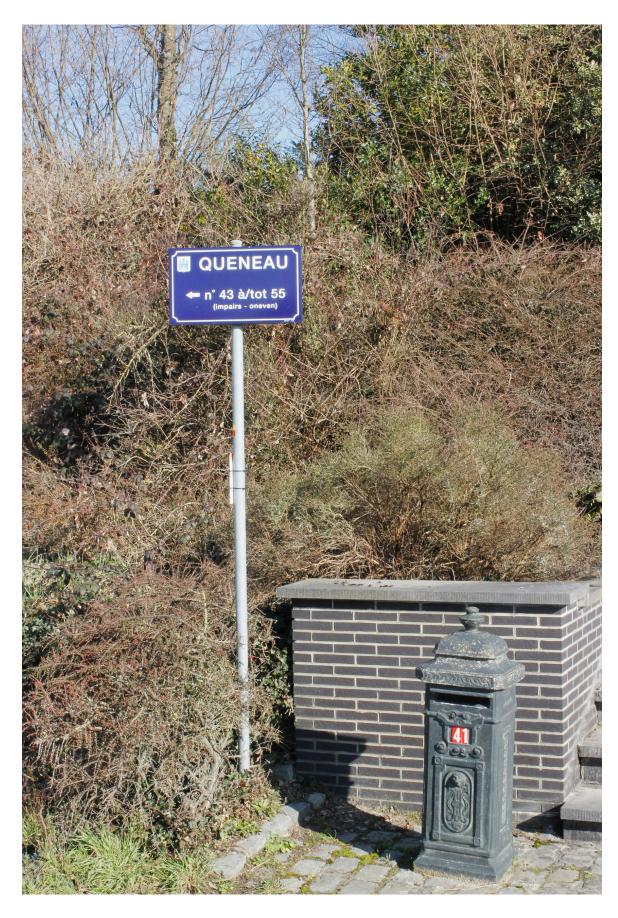
French writer Raymond Queneau did extensive research into what he called hétéroclites, and at other times fous littéraires, a continuation of a longstanding bibliographic project of assembling texts proposing eccentric theories that were never picked up by the scientific community. Disappointed by the results of his research and unable to find a publisher, he abandoned the idea of publishing the encyclopaedia he was compiling. Later, in his encyclopaedic novel Les enfants du limon, he picks up the thread, from a different perspective. It tells the story of two quirky characters, Chambernac and Purpulan, wanting to compile an encyclopedia on fous littéraires. The novel cites from the texts they have dug up. The novel ends when they give up on the project, and give their findings to a novelist they meet and who says to be interested in the material, and asks if it would be OK if he'd attribute it to a character in a story he's writing. Chambernac agrees, asking the name of the novelist he's meeting: 'Monsieur comment?' - 'Queneau'.

the-documents.o

Sources

- Queneau, R. Aux confins des ténèbres. Les fous littéraires du XIXe siècle (M. Velguth, red.). Paris: Gallimard, 2002.
- Queneau, R. Les enfants du limon. Paris: Gallimard, 2004 [1938].

Hétéroclites



type photograph date 06.03.2021 filename _MG_6560.JPG

author Arnout De Cleene

category book, encyclopaedia, mathematics, sign

The previous owners of the house we moved into, left us a piece of a newspaper that was used to clad the wall at the time the building was built, and which they found when they renovated the house. The sport-section of the socialist newspaper *Vooruit* is dated 18 November 1931. It features articles on cycling and soccer. Recently, we noticed the plaster is coming off the wall in one corner of the living room. With sufficient rain, it might reveal other events that happened on that 1931 November Wednesday.

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type scan date 20.02.2021 filename

size

author

Document_2021-02-20_133700.jpg

1,7MB

Arnout De Cleene

On Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 2:23:14 PM Koh Elaine starts the thread *original or original copy* on the The Free Dictionary by Farlex's forum.

'Is "original copy" correct or should it be "original"? Thanks.'

The seventh reply to Elaine's question is Wilmar's on Thursday (his was preceded by towan52, georgew, NKM, Koh Elaine, Sarrriesfan, ChrisKC, Ashwin Joshi).

'An original copy IS the original.

Folks usually call the document first created the original, but some will say original copy. If I run that original thru the copy machine, I end up with two copies (yes, I said copies) of the same thing – the original and the duplicate of it (in terms of content). This is how the term is commonly used.

If your writing or conversation depends heavily on understand the difference, I would recommend using the terms original and duplicates. There are many times when that is very important, in that the original must be retained by a particular party, and the duplicates are marked as such and distributed or stored as required depending on the document and the circumstance.

If you are just trying to make sure that you have enough copies to distribute to everyone at the company meeting this afternoon, use whatever terms trips your trigger. But, if you want to ensure that you keep custody of the original, so that you can make additional duplicates (copies) when additional people attend, then be more specific about the words you use.

OH, and, please, in the future, include some context with your question. Asking if "word" is correct doesn't go very far in supplying a reasonably useful response.'

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Original Copy

org

Wilmar (USA) 1M

Rank: Advanced Member

Joined: 6/4/2015

Posts: 5,721

Neurons: 1,278,032

Location: Vinton, Iowa, United States

date 16.02.2021 screenshot

Schermafbeelding 2021-02-16 om 11.08.01.png

size 45KB

author Michiel De Cleene A skiing holiday with my in-laws. The ski pass does not allow you to visit Schatzalp. We buy a separate ticket and take the train up the hill to the hotel, which served as the backdrop for Thomas Mann's *Magic Mountain*. The stately hotel and former sanatorium is gorgeous.

Meanwhile, a new virus is spreading. Some people are coughing. I am keeping distance while waiting in line to take the train back down to the snow-covered village.

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type scan

date 14.02.2021

filename Document_2021-02-14_140547.jpg

770KB

author

Arnout De Cleene

A Sunday stroll near my parents' house. Along one of the roads between the fields, old poplars have been felled. Young trees have been planted. Each one has a baby blue coloured label, identifying them as Poplar tree, and, more specifically, the 'Vesten' cultivar. This cultivar is planted since it is one of the cultivars known for its resistance with regards to bacteria, diseases and insects. The tags on the trunks have staples keeping them together. They're like bracelets. Come spring, the expanding diameter of the fast growing poplar species' trunk will tear them apart.

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Sources

- Steenackers, M., Schamp, K., & De Clercq, W. (2018). De INBO variëteiten van populier, een aanwinst voor de Europese populierenteelt. Silva belgica: tijdschrift van de koninklijke belgische bosbouwmaatschappij = bulletin de la société royale forestière de belgique, N°4/2018, 40-47. [5].
- https://purews.inbo.be/ws/portalfiles/portal/15044340/Dossier_populier_I NBO_KBBM.pdf

Populus

org



filename

type scan date 25.01.2021 Handgeschreven_2021-01-25_091710.jpg

size 823KB author Arnout De Cleene

category botany, tree, packaging, house, epidemic, family Yesterday I had my shoulder checked by a radiologist. He took an ultrasound and saw some minor inflammation of my right subscapularis.

After giving me some advice – 'we could give you a shot of cortisone in the shoulder. It would relieve you from your pain for six weeks and then, without proper exercise, you'd be back where you are now'- he walked towards the door. 'I propose you do this exercise thirty times, three times a day.' The radiologists put his right hand on the doorframe, his arm stretched, the weight of his body on it and then leaned forward and back again, while keeping his arm stretched. 'This will increase the muscles around the sore subscapularis. It will take months.' After giving me his advice, he sent me back into the dressing room. I put my shirt back on and went into the waiting room. The nurse called out my name, charged me 14,00 EUR and gave me a card. 'This code will allow you to look at the images of the ultrasound at home', she said.

Today I entered the code and password and – instead of my shoulder – found the röntgen-images of someone else's broken heel.

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Shoulder



type radiograph date 14.01.2021 filename 1f713c4c-6975-4760-ada1-9cc485930adc.PNG

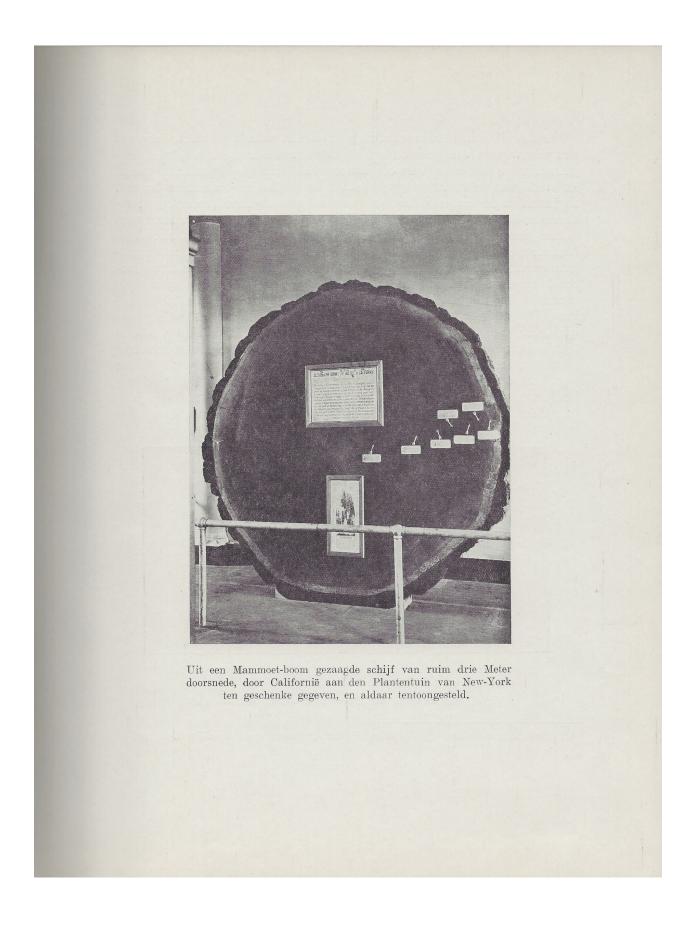
size 1,2MB author Michiel De Cleene ('Slice of more than three meters in diameter, sawn from a Mammoth-tree, given by California to the botanical garden of New York, and presented there')

Thiery describes the 'patriarchs' of the plant world. This slice of a Sequoia, which fell in 1917 in Yosemite National Park, is 1694 years old. A woman of the New York Botanical Institue, where the slice of the patriarch is presented, counted the rings. If one would look at the picture with a magnifying glass, Thiery writes in a footnote, the reader (with good eyes and a fair amount of knowledge of the English language) would be able to read the labels indicating the important global events the tree witnessed. They are transcribed and translated by the author. The end of the Roman occupation of Great Britain. Columbus arriving in America. The Declaration of Independence. This is a lie: the text is illegible, even when using a magnifier.

In the photograph, the slice, as on view in the New York Botanical Institute, is presented upright. To prevent it from rolling away, two small triangular slices of wood were posited at the left and right side of the slice. The type of wood of these slices, nor the age of the patriarch from which they stem, are known.

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Magnifier



type scan date 04.01.2021 filename

Document_2021-01-04_114324.jpg

size 3,1MB author Arnout De Cleene

category book, botany, card, tree, scale, sign, mistake

In between two cities along the Belgian coast, water has run from the dunes (and the Second World War Heritage site scattered among them), underneath the coastal road and tram rails, to the beach. It has formed a small S-shaped estuary, bound to disappear due to the increasingly harsh wind coming from the coast of Britain, blowing Northeasterly, and hammering down on the levee. The vibrations of the empty Ostend-bound tram passing just before the photograph was taken, had no visible impact on the estuary.

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Estuary



type photograph date 28.12.2020 filename WhatsApp Image 2020-12-28 at 21.45.31.jpeg

size 393KB author Arnout De Cleene

category precipitation, wind, sea, sand

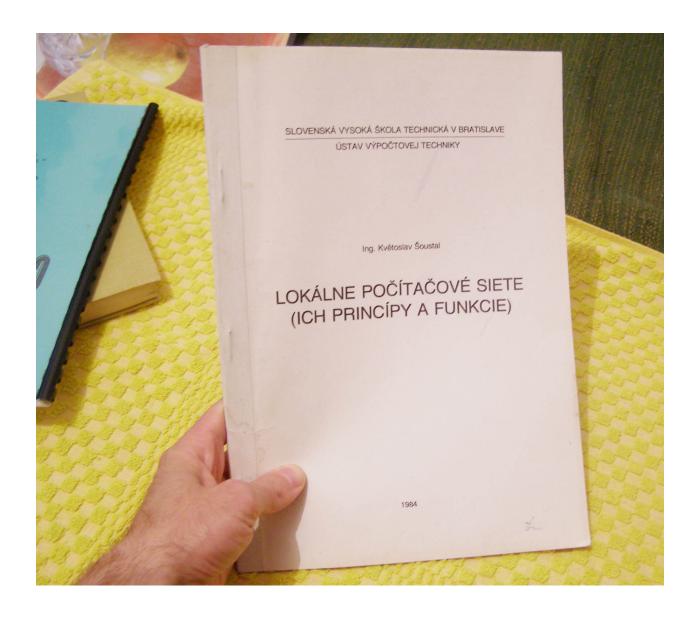
Depending on the language one chooses, the Wikipedia entry for 'document' shows a different picture. The French-language page shows what appears to be a Slovenian thesis written in 1984. The caption states it is a 'book of Czechoslovak computer science author Květoslav Šoustal about computer networks'. The image was uploaded by Kelovy, a Slovakian mushroom-picker.

The anonymous hand rests on a lemon-yellow tablecloth, on which a yellow book and a blue binded file lie. The top left corner is the most intriguing, however: the tablecloth seems to be draped over a lemon, alongside a drinking glass. The cloth, however, does not get shaped by the lemon. Nor does the shadow-side of the lemon coincide with the shadow the other documents throw on the tablecloth. A closer look seems to indicate that the lemon is in fact an image of a lemon, printed on a plastic napkin.

The Russian wikipedia shows the image of a lease agreement. The German wikipedia for 'document' is text only.

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Lemon



type photograph date 23.12.2020 filename
KVETOSLAV_SOUSTAL_BOOK.JPG

size 956KB author Arnout De Cleene The Bahrain Formula 1 Grand Prix takes place every year since the track's inauguration in 2004 – except for 2011 when the race was cancelled due to protests in the wake of the Arab Spring. To prevent sand from covering the track and entering the airducts and engines, the sand near the track is sprayed with an adhesive to keep it from blowing around.

The cloud of sand in the picture (made near Avenue 61 on an artificial island close to Seef) was made by kicking it into the frame while M.R. and M.D.C. had to stop and wait for a truck that was being towed after the driver lost control over the vehicle and flipped it onto its side. Days earlier M.D.C. had tried to make a photograph of the F1-track, but couldn't get close enough to make a decent picture.

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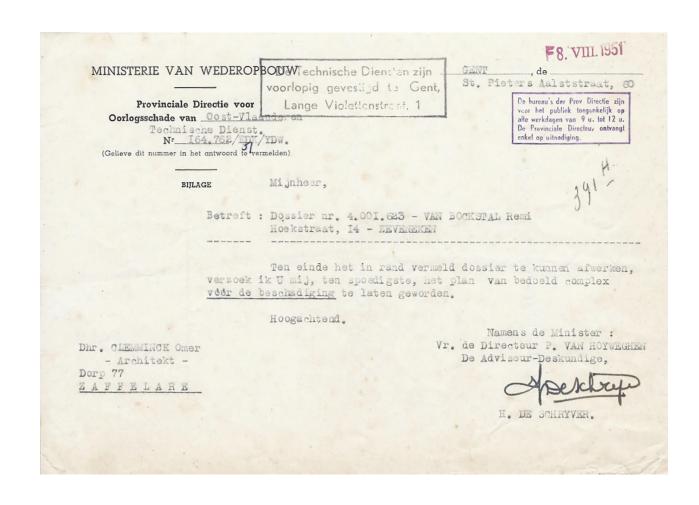
Adhesive



type photograph date 18.12.2020 filename _44A7884.dng size 58,4MB author Michiel De Cleene An architect in Z. receives a reminder. 'Please send, as soon as possible, the plans of the construction before the damage.' The reminder was sent by the Ministry of Reconstruction, in 1951. The architect's address in Z., as mentioned in this file, is nowadays a house adjacent to Saloon Redbarn, a hall used for activities organized by a club of country and western-aficionados.

the-documents.d

org



type scan date 14.12.2020 filename

Ministerie_van_wederopbouw.pdf

size 1MB author

Arnout De Cleene

As a result of intense drainage of drinking water, an area around the Belgian city of Waver was designated as having a potential for land subsidence – the downward movement of the soil over an extended period of time. People in Waver were startled to find their town mentioned in an international study published in *Science*. Flemish newspaper *De Standaard* uncovered that the researchers had used an older study, published in 2005, which claimed that the soil in Waver had moved some five centimeters in a period of eleven years. Pictures of fissures in Waver-facades had been added to the original article.

Last year, cracks in our living room wall were covered up by placing plasterboard in front of the plastered brick wall. As such, we avoided having to paint the wall with the cracks and the marks left by the IKEA Billy bookcases.

Sources

- https://science.sciencemag.org/content/sci/suppl/2020/12/29/371.6524.34.
 DC1/abb8549_Herrera_SM.pdf
- https://www.standaard.be/cnt/dmf20210106_97889104
- http://earth.esa.int/fringe2005/proceedings/papers/677_devleeschouwer.p df

the-documents.o

Plaster



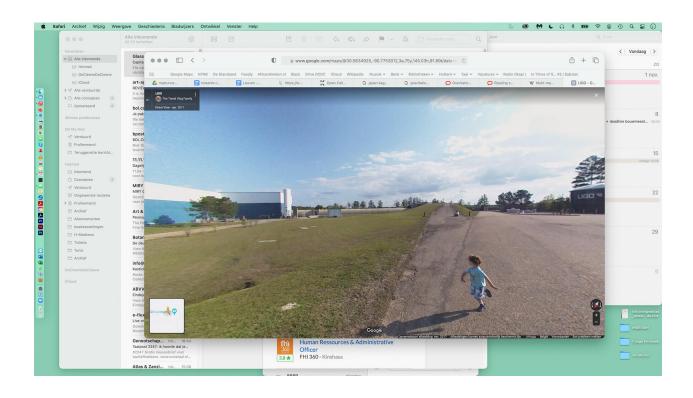
type photograph date 11.12.2020 filename IMG_0280.JPG size 2,6MB author Arnout De Cleene To detect gravitational waves, physicists built enormous research centers, amongst others at Livingston, Louisiana. The facility mainly consists of two tunnels in an L-shape. Mirrors inside provide data. Disturbances from gravitational waves are miniscule. To prevent interference from outside, such as vibrations caused by people passing in the neighbourhood, the mirrors have to be detached from the earth. They 'float', suspended by glass fibers in a pendulum-like construction.

As I was watching my screen, a courier was on his way to deliver a book (Noel-Todd, J. *The Penguin Book of the Prose Poem: From Baudelaire to Anne Carson*. London: Penguin, 2019).

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LIGO

org



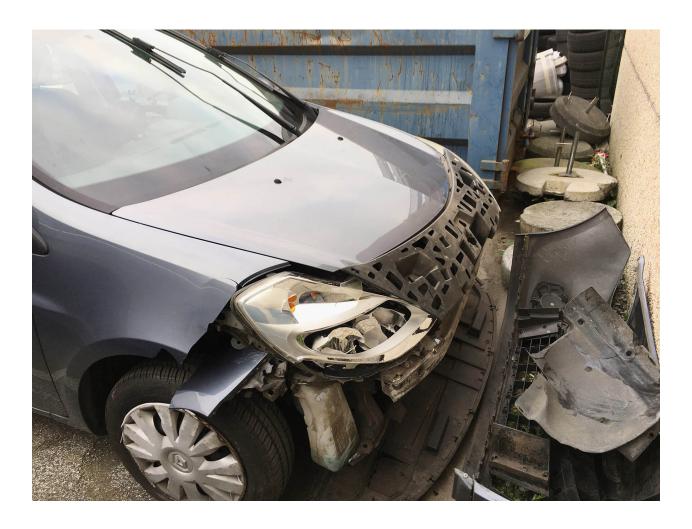
type date filename size author screenshot 24.11.2020 LIGO.png 6,9MB Arnout De Cleene

In June, 2014, a severe hailstorm hit Belgium. Warnings were broadcast. A football game between the national teams of Belgium and Tunisia was paused. The morning after, there were small dents in the hood and the roof of the car, each a square centimeter in size, some 10 centimeters separated from each other. The storm didn't get a name.

Assessing the damage, the insurance company's expert took the dents into account to establish the wreck's worth.

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Crash (1)



type photograph date 16.10.2020 filename IMG_2236.JPG size 2,8MB author Arnout De Cleene